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GN Docket 13-111



ARKANSAS BOARD OF CORRECTIONS POST OFFICE BOX 20550 WHITE HALL, ARKANSAS 71612-0550

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July 20, 2017

Agit Pai, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St. SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket 13-111, FCC 17-25, Promiting Technological Solutions to Combat Contraband Wireless Device Use in Correctional Facility

Dear Chairman Pai and Secretary Dortsh;

As Chairman of the Arkansas Board of Corrections, and having served on this Board for 18 years, I am very aware of the issues that we face daily in corrections when dealing with contraband cell phones. We have discussed these issues with our staff in Board meetings, and our Board has great concerns about these cell phones being used to order hits, operate illegal drug activities, scams, and escapes. Our top concern is the safety of correctional employees, other inmates, and members of the public. Those using the network to smuggle contraband cellphones into correctional facilities could use the same network to smuggle in weapons.

I support President Bertsch's request to amend your proposed rule to include surgical jamming technology, and to provide stringent measures to ensure carrier cooperation with beacon technology, managed access technology and future technologies.

I agree with her that "Section 333 of the Federal Communications Act does not prevent the FCC from authorizing the use of jamming **illegal** wireless device signals. Section 333 merely prohibits the 'willful or malicious interference to **authorized** radio communications.' Since cell phones are contraband within correctional facilities, their use constitutes **unauthorized** communications; jamming those illegal signals could not violate Section 333."

We sincerely appreciate that the FCC recognizes that these are legitimate issues, and we are relying on you to require FCC regulated wireless carriers to be part of the solution.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter and please let me know if there is anything we can do to help with this matter.

Sincerely,

Benny Magness

Chairman

cc: Board of Corrections Members

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Director Wendy Kelley

Kelly Eichler, Governor's Senior Advisor for Criminal Justice